

CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A system for drafting a patent application and assessing technological information on at least one computer, the system comprising:
  - a. at least one input device connected to the at least one computer for inputting information from at least one user
  - b. at least one processing means for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the information inputted by the at least one user, wherein the diagrammatic representation comprises graphical component structure and textual component content associated with each component such that for each component, the graphical component structure includes the textual component content, and for automatically generating a document for filing as a patent application, including specification and claims, based upon the information inputted by the at least one user and additional text-based detailed information that is organized consistent with the diagram; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto, wherein the diagrammatic representation of the components and subcomponents together provides an indication of what may be claimed in a patent application, and wherein the text-based information and the diagram components are automatically directly linked by being visually integrated with one another within the graphical component structure;

- c. at least one output device connected to the at least one computer for outputting the automatically generated diagrammatic representation of an invention.
2. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the diagram is modifiable by the at least one user and the diagram hierarchical component categorization and related text-based detailed information is automatically updated based upon the user modifications.
3. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one key component includes a multiplicity of components.
4. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one subcomponent further includes at least one sub-subcomponent.
5. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the relational connection between components establishes the claims structure of the patent application.
6. (cancelled)
7. (original) The system according to claim 6, wherein the link(s) are hyperlinks.
8. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are capable of being output into another software program.
9. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are exportable in HTML format.
10. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are exportable in XML format.
11. (currently amended) A method for drafting a patent application comprising the steps of:

- a. entering information relating to components of a patentable invention by at least one user;
- b. automatically generating a visual diagram of the components of the invention in a hierarchical relational diagram, wherein the visual diagram is a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the user inputted information, wherein the diagrammatic representation comprises graphical component structure and textual component content wherein the textual component is positioned within the graphical component structure for each component associated with each component such that for each component, the graphical component structure includes the textual component content wherein the textual component and the diagram components are automatically directly linked by being visually integrated with one another within the diagrammatic representation, and automatically generating a document for filing as a patent application, including specification and claims, based upon the user inputted information and additional text-based detailed information that is organized consistent with the diagram; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto; and
- c. the at least one user viewing the diagram and text-based information in a tangible medium, wherein the diagrammatic representation of the components and subcomponents together provides an indication of what may be claimed in a patent application.

12. (currently amended) The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:

at least one user entering diagram verbiage by drafting the text-based detailed description or verbiage of the specification section of the application for each component of the diagram wherein the text-based description and the diagram verbiage are automatically directly linked by being visually integrated with one another where the text associated with each component is included only within the diagram section for that component.

13. (original) The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:  
at least one user inputting additional components selected from the group consisting of key components, subcomponents, and sub-subcomponents.

14. (original) The method according to claim 11, further including the steps of:  
modifying any previously inputted components within the diagram; and  
the system automatically updating the diagram and relational information to those modified components.

15. (original) The method according to claim 11, further including the step of  
automatically generating a patent application based upon the inputted information and  
the hierarchical diagram, including specification and claims.

16. (currently amended) A system for mapping technology using at least one  
computing device, comprising:

a. at least one input device connected to the at least one computing device for  
inputting information from at least one user;

b. at least one processing means for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of a technology, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the technology based upon the information inputted by the at least one user, wherein the diagrammatic representation comprises graphical component structure and textual component content associated with each component such that for each component, the graphical component structure for each component includes the textual component content for that component only, wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto; and

c. at least one output device connected to the at least one computing device for outputting the automatically generated diagrammatic representation of a technology.

17. (currently amended) A method for mapping technology comprising the steps of:

- a.. entering information relating to components of a technology by at least one user;
- b. automatically generating a visual diagram of the components of the technology in a hierarchical relational diagram, wherein the visual diagram is a diagrammatic representation of a technology, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the technology based upon the user inputted information, wherein the diagrammatic representation comprises graphical component structure and textual component content associated with each component such that for each component, the graphical component structure for each component includes the textual component content directly related only to that specific component, and outputting a viewable diagram of that

categorization wherein each of the components and its corresponding text-based information and its corresponding diagram components are automatically directly linked by being visually integrated with one another within the graphical component structure; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto, and

c. the at least one user viewing the diagram and text-based information in a tangible medium.

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)